


**Iowa Nonpoint Source Program
2013 Annual Progress Report
October 1, 2012 – September 30, 2013**

GOAL 1 WATERSHED COLLABORATION: *Build partnerships to enhance a collaborative watershed approach to nonpoint source water pollution.*

Objective 1.1: Strengthen and expand agency collaboration. (Lead Agencies – DNR, DSC, CDI, ISU, NRCS)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Communicate progress of implementation to the Water Resources Coordinating Council (WRCC) & Watershed Planning Advisory Council (WPAC).	Ongoing	Ability to report on priorities and progress.
Progress or Accomplishments: The Iowa Nonpoint Source Management Plan that can be found on line at http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/WaterQuality/WatershedImprovement/WatershedPlanning/NonpointSourcePlan.aspx was presented by Allen Bonini of DNR Watershed Improvement to the WRCC and WPAC on July 26, 2013. Future updates will be provided at least annually. The Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy (developed by DNR, IDALS and ISU) has also been discussed at all of the WRCC and WPAC meetings in 2013. The Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy can be found on-line at nutrientstrategy@iastate.edu . 		
2. Implement activities and initiatives based on the priorities.	Ongoing	Demonstration of a strengthened and expanded collaboration.
Progress or Accomplishments: In 2013, many activities and initiatives prioritized in the NPSMP were begun to be implemented.		

Updates have been provided on current watershed projects with approved watershed management plans and updates have been provided by DNR, IDALS and ISU on activities with the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy. This report will be provided when complete to both the WRCC and WPAC. 9 priority HUC 8 watersheds were identified by the WRCC for implementation of the new Water Quality Initiative. Money was made available state-wide to plant cover crops, add nitrogen inhibitor to fall applied anhydrous, and no-till and strip-till. There were 17 applications submitted in the 9 priority HUC 8 watersheds to demonstration nutrient reduction efforts. It is our intent that the priority funded watersheds will be operational by January 1, 2014.

Objective 1.2: Organize Soil and Water Conservation Districts (SWCDs) to cooperate within watershed boundaries. (Lead Agencies – CDI, DSC)


Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Incorporate action steps into SWCD 5 year plan and make public via IDALS website.	On-going	Longevity goal, commitment.
Progress or Accomplishments: The development of a template 5 year plan to include action steps for SWCDs cooperating within watershed boundaries is part of the CDI "DO-IT" Project Proposal,, which was developed in 2013. The development of a portion of CDI's website to make this template public is part of the DO-IT Project Proposal as well.		
2. Joint commissioner and stakeholder meeting visionary session.	2013	Foster understanding and knowledge of watershed issues, encourage partnership activity, identify leadership.
Progress or Accomplishments: Joint commissioner and stakeholder visionary sessions was developed as part of the DO-IT Project in 2013, and will be part of the development, testing and promotion of the toolboxes developed in the DO-IT Project Proposal.		
3. Develop a watershed map on display in every SWCD office, use in public and in publications, events.	2015	Facilitate citizenry gaining knowledge of watersheds and that everyone lives in a watershed.
Progress or Accomplishments:		

In 2013, watershed maps were on display in SWCDs with 319 watershed projects. In the year 2014, CDI will initiate a push to develop a watershed maps for display in every SWCD office and will encourage the use of the watershed map in outreach and education efforts		
4. Communicate available science and needed information to make informed decisions.	On-going	Local districts have sound information to make decisions.
Progress or Accomplishments: CDI provides information to commissioners through bulletins, webinars, meetings and other outreach and education efforts. In the last year, information about watersheds and nonpoint source pollution has been part of those efforts. For educational information in 2013, see: http://cdiowa.org/conservation-districts-of-iowa/programs		
5. Host legislative/elected official tours, field days.	On-going	Informed elected officials, Legislative packet handout.
Progress or Accomplishments: In late 2012, CDI & IDALS-DSC provided districts and commissioners with template documents and instructions for hosting a legislative/elected official event in 2013. Those tools will be provided and promoted to districts & commissioners again in 2014. In 2014, NRCS, IDALS-DSC & CDI will provide funding to ten districts to conduct Soil Health Days. CDI & NRCS will be creating a toolbox with templates and instructions for conducting this activity to share with these Districts and will make available to all commissioners and districts. The CDI "DO-IT Project" proposal to inform SWCDs includes toolboxes for developing strategies for community engagement through outreach and education and for conducting legislative outreach and education.		
6. Involve media by inviting local media to watershed events.	On-going	Positive press, Informed citizenry, Progress reports.
Progress or Accomplishments: The DO-IT Project Proposal includes a toolbox for engaging the media.		
7. Plan and provide for volunteer recognition activities and networking events.	On-going	Plan to get information and updates, progress reports.
Progress or Accomplishments: CDI acknowledges volunteers throughout the state annually at the CDI Annual Conference. For information on volunteer recognition in the 2013 CDI conference: http://cdiowa.org/conservation-districts-of-iowa/programs/commissioner-development/annual-conference . Those recognized include commissioners, farmers, teachers, watershed projects and others who contribute to soil conservation, clean water and watershed projects. Conducting volunteer recognition will be a tool in the toolbox for		

developing strategies for community engagement through outreach and education.		
8. Develop local watershed websites.	On-going	Websites developed.
Progress or Accomplishments: Several local watershed projects developed websites, provided updates, or maintained websites or social media sites in 2013. Website development will be a tool in the toolbox for developing strategies for community engagement through outreach and education.		
9. Involve students in local watershed activities.	2017	The number of students involved on an annual basis.
Progress or Accomplishments: Toolboxes to identify and work with partners and recruit new commissioners will recommend student involvement.		

Objective 1.3: *Develop local comprehensive visions and action plans for nonpoint source water quality within the HUC-12 watershed. (Lead Agencies – DNR, DSC, CDI)*

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. State and federal agencies should provide watershed education, guidance, tech support to local stakeholders.	2013	Determine priority watersheds. I.e.: designated uses, highly used, trigger events, multiple use, improved waters.
Progress or Accomplishments: CDI and the commissioners advised state and federal agencies in 2013 on the watershed education, guidance and tech support they provide and should provide to SWCDs and all Iowans		
2. Empower Commissioners with training, water quality knowledge (SWCDs).	2014	Commissioner involvement and leadership, locally led project.
Progress or Accomplishments: CDI provided information in 2013 to commissioners through bulletins, webinars, meetings and other outreach and education efforts. In the last year, training and information about water quality has been part of those efforts.		
3. Identify local support, individuals and groups (in addition to SWCDs).	2015	Locals lead, spearhead project, Identified local leaders.
Progress or Accomplishments: The DO-IT Project Proposal includes a toolbox for identifying and working with partners.		

4. Continue to fund development and planning grant processes.	On-going	Watershed assessment and watershed plans.
Progress or Accomplishments:  CDI does not fund development and planning grant processes but encourages DNR & DSC to continue to provide this support to the SWCDs. Tools for creating watershed plans is part of the DO-IT Project Proposal.		
5. Form watershed steering committee.	2014	At least one commissioner on each watershed steering committee.
Progress or Accomplishments: Forming a watershed steering committee will be a recommendation in the tools provided to SWCDs with the DO-IT Project.		
6. Dedicate funding.	On-going	Sufficient funds to accomplish environmental goal, long term funding—hard dollars.
Progress or Accomplishments: CDI lobbies on the state and federal level for dedicated funding to soil conservation, clean water and watershed projects. New funding for watershed work in Iowa was made available through the DNR SRF Sponsored Projects Program in 2013.		
7. Dedicate staffing for each watershed project.	On-going	Establish and maintain at a minimum 0.5 FTE's per watershed.
Progress or Accomplishments: CDI does not have staff to dedicate, but nearly all watershed projects in 2013 had at least a .5 FTE assigned to the watershed.		


Objective 1.4: Implement Smart planning principles, as provided by Code of Iowa at watershed level.(Lead Agencies – DNR, DSC, ISU)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Develop and deliver a pilot educational program in one or more of the six major river basins or three river regions that informs communities about how NPS pollution can be reduced by utilizing Smart Planning principles and comprehensive planning elements in planning, zoning and resource management decision-making.	2014	Greater rate of adoption of sustainable storm water management practices in communities.
<p>Progress or Accomplishments: DNR contracted with the Iowa Storm Water Education Partnership (ISWEP) at the Iowa Association of Municipal Utilities to develop and deliver a watershed planning for communities workshop titled “A Watershed Approach to Community Planning” this past year. The workshop was held in three separate locations, one of which was in the Spring of 2013 in the Cedar River Basin (Mason City, Iowa). (The other two workshops were held in FFY14.) More information on the workshop can be found at: http://www.iowastormwater.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=202&Itemid=246</p> <p>In addition ISWEP developed and maintains a toolbox of resources to help communities and others utilize these tools in their future land use planning processes. The toolbox can be accessed at: http://www.iowastormwater.org/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=116%3Awatershed-based-land-use-planning&catid=40%3Ams4-cat&Itemid=246</p>		
2. Provide financial incentives to encourage multi-jurisdictional Smart Planning emphasizing NPS reduction.	On-going	City and county comprehensive plans incorporate smart planning principles that address the impacts of land use decisions on water quality at the watershed scale (HUC 12 minimum).
<p>Progress or Accomplishments: DNR initiated a Request for Proposal in the Summer of 2013 soliciting interest from new or existing Watershed Management Authorities in need of funds to initiate, continue or complete the</p>		

<p>development of their Watershed Management Plans utilizing Smart Planning Principles. As a result of this RFP, funds were awarded to three WMA's (two existing – Turkey River and Indian Creek; and one new WMA – English River) to assist them in their planning processes. These planning efforts will be conducted over the next 12 to 18 months. In addition, Iowa Economic Development Authority (IEDA), utilizing supplemental HUD funding provided to Iowa as a result of the 2008 floods, provided planning funds for three additional WMA's (Upper Cedar River, Squaw Creek, and 4 Mile Creek) to begin their watershed planning processes utilizing the Smart Planning principles. As a result of these efforts there are at least 10 WMA's that have been created in Iowa in the last two years and there is active planning going on in nine.</p>		
<p>3. Take steps to promote the implementation of Smart Planning Principles:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Incentivize storm water management systems (site- and community-scale) that not only mitigate potential flooding, but also mitigate NPS pollution b. Expand the outreach efforts of Iowa Stormwater Education Program to reach non-MS4 communities and other watershed organizations. 	<p>On-going</p> <p>2023</p> <p>2015</p>	<p>Measurable reduction in NPS pollution in communities/watersheds where pilot programs are initiated.</p>
<p>Progress or Accomplishments:</p> <p>Progress or Accomplishments: As noted in Action Step 1, above, ISWEP was contracted with to develop and deliver a workshop (offered at 3 different locations/dates) to promote these principles to local community land use and P&Z officials, and developed a toolbox of resources to help communities adopt these strategies. These workshops were available to local community officials regardless of community size. Over 150 people attended the three workshops.</p>		
<p>4. Encourage rural-urban collaboratives to address agricultural and natural resource preservation, with an emphasis on NPS pollution reduction.</p>	<p>On-going</p>	<p>Deliver in one river basin or river region per year.</p>
<p>Progress or Accomplishments:</p> <p>Progress or Accomplishments: In the past two years there have been at least 10 WMAs formed in Iowa, with reports of an additional 2 in the process of being formed. In accordance with Iowa Code, all WMA's must include soliciting interest in participating from all cities, counties and soil and water conservation districts within the defined watershed area for the proposed WMA. In all cases, the</p>		

existing WMAs include multiple of these urban and rural jurisdictions in their organizational membership. DNR and the Iowa NPS Partnership continue to support and encourage further development of these urban/rural collaborative watershed authorities to further advance reductions in NPS pollutants.

Objective 1.5: Increase coordination between public and private entities to better leverage existing funding. (Lead Agencies – DSC, DNR)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Identify Points of Contact at statewide level for public and private entities to develop a mechanism for delivery.	2013	Communicated and coordinated use of resources to address Water Quality concerns.
Progress or Accomplishments: The Regional Basin Coordinators have been identified using coverage maps and contact information on the Iowa DNR and IDALS websites, including e-mail and telephone contact information. These coordinators furnish quarterly reports which indicate that at least 150 contacts with public and private partners were completed during the program year. DNR and IDALS-DSC coordinated use of resources with state-level project management staff through four quarterly in-person meetings in 2012 and in 2013 to address water quality needs.		
2. Regional Basin Coordinators identify partners and develop a plan to initiate communication plan.	2013 / ongoing	Targeted prioritization; More effective and efficient use of resources.
Progress or Accomplishments:  The RBCs identified partners in priority areas that included nine-element watershed plan areas, the three NWQI watersheds, and through targeting of priority watersheds through the state's 2013 Water Quality Initiative, in which nine HUC-8s were established as priority targeted areas. Targeted funding for water quality demonstration projects in these areas has been obligated by DSC and its partners in the Water Quality Initiative. Within those priority areas, RBCs identified project partners and assisted in development of consortia which will carry out the demonstration projects.		
3. Project Coordinators assist RBC to identify local community partners.	2013 / ongoing	Watershed Management Plan developed, Identified local community partners.

Progress or Accomplishments: Project coordinators communicated regularly with RBCs and with local community partners on an ongoing basis in 2013 to implement water quality plans and projects. During the year, 2 new nine-element plans were completed and one plan was updated. Additionally, Project Coordinators met twice with RBCs and agency staff during the year, once at the statewide level and once at the regional level, to communicate project progress and issues with current or planned projects.		
4. RBC and PC refine message to applicability of local watershed.	Ongoing	Watershed assessment and watershed plans.
Progress or Accomplishments: Project coordinators and RBCs worked throughout the year to incorporate priorities established in the Water Quality Initiative into current projects, including active Section 319 projects, Targeted Demonstration projects, and in updates to 40 completed watershed assessments and development of two new assessments. These planning initiatives have been instrumental in establishment of 10 Watershed Management Authorities in the state in the last two years, and two more WMAs were in the process of being developed in 2013.		
5. Establish a mechanism to facilitate communication with public and private entities.	2015 / ongoing	Informed people.
Progress or Accomplishments: Progress on this action item is underway, as DNR and DSC staff, including RBCs and PCs, have contributed information for the release of the CleanwaterIowa.org website, which is intended to provide information on statewide water quality programs and initiatives. Over 20 watershed project meetings and field days were also conducted with partners and other interested entities in 2013. DNR Communications also distributed four quarterly watershed newsletters in 2013 to provide updates to public and private partners on current programs. Regional meetings were held statewide with Conservation Districts of Iowa, and monthly meetings with the State Soil Conservation Committee were completed in 2013 to further engage stakeholders.		
6. Plans are prepared, reviewed and presented. Include a section to address identifying all potential funding sources, including but not limited to public and private.	2015 / ongoing	Plans are accepted. Plans are developed identifying multiple public and private potential funding sources. Applicants increase knowledge of local community by identifying and approaching potential

		funders.
Progress or Accomplishments: Progress on this action item is ongoing. During the year, several plans were developed and adopted to address lake quality, watershed improvements, and reduction of nutrient runoff into lakes and streams. Those plans were used by districts and watershed groups to access funding from state and federal water quality cost-share programs.		


Section 319 Program short- and long-term goals, objectives and strategies:

GOAL 1: WATERSHED COLLABORATION: *Build partnerships to enhance a collaborative watershed approach to nonpoint source water pollution.*

	2013 Progress
<u>Objective 1:</u> Expand the basin coordinator network from 4 to 5 within 5 years, and, subject to available funding, expand the basin coordinator network from 5 to 6 within 10 years.	No progress during FFY2013.
<u>Objective 2:</u> Hold quarterly basin coordinator partner meetings to strengthen agency and program collaboration.	During FFY2013 four DNR/IDALS basin coordinator meetings were held: November 14, 2012, February 6, 2013, May 16, 2013, and August 20, 2013. Basin Coordinator contact information is maintained on the DNR webpage: http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/WaterQuality/WatershedImprovement/ContactWatershedStaff.aspx
<u>Objective 3:</u> Facilitate the establishment of a minimum of three Watershed Management Authorities in priority impaired watersheds within 5 years.	Four Watershed Management Authorities were established in areas with one or more impaired segments: Indian Creek, English River, Turkey River, and Boone River.
<u>Objective 4:</u> State and federal	State/Federal Partners in 2013 hosted a spring project coordinator meeting following the Iowa Water

partners (including DNR Watershed Improvement Program, IDALS-DSC, and NRCS) meet with Watershed Project Coordinators at least twice per year to inform and educate them on watershed-related topics.	Conference in Ames. The agenda included programs updates from the various partners and success stories were shared from various watershed project coordinators. The fall project coordinator meeting included one meeting in each of the four basin coordinator areas and included more regional topics and success stories.
<u>Objective 5:</u> State partners meet quarterly each year with each active watershed group funded by Section 319 funds to provide individual technical/administrative assistance to watershed groups.	Iowa DNR Watershed Improvement Staff/ IDALS staff met at least quarterly in 2013 with each section 319 funded project to provide technical/administrative assistance.
<u>Objective 6:</u> Basin coordinators collectively hold 10 outreach meetings annually with prospective watershed groups.	Annual Objective met. Majority of outreach meetings involved the Watershed Management Authority Planning RFA, WIRB, Water Quality Initiative, and SRF Sponsored Projects.
<u>Objective 7:</u> Approve or update a minimum of 10 Watershed Management Plans (EPA-approved 9-element WMPs) within 5 years (2 per year).	Two WMPs were approved the Iowa DNR – Section 319 program (Easter Lake, Silver Creek (Howard in 2013. The total number of DNR-approved WMPs is 24.. DNR-approved WMPs are made available on the DNR Watershed Improvement website: http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/WaterQuality/WatershedImprovement/WatershedPlanning/ManagementPlans.aspx



GOAL 2 EDUCATION / OUTREACH / TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: *Improve technical assistance, outreach and education to facilitate NPS assessment, planning and implementation.*

Objective 2.1: Build local / mutual accountability through community-based watershed and other groups to set expectations for conservation behavior. (Lead Agencies – ISU, CDI) 

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Set watershed goals at the district level for soil conservation and water quality improvement including measures to track goals, timelines, and priorities.	2014	District-level strategic plans for soil and water quality improvement.
Progress or Accomplishments Seven watershed groups set goals to establish demonstration projects to increase cover crop adoption in their watersheds in fall of 2013		
2. Plan and incorporate community-based watershed leadership training into watershed coordinator in-service meetings and soil commissioner professional development.	2014	Each watershed coordinator and one soil and water conservation district commissioner from each district will be trained using the community-based watershed improvement process.
Progress or Accomplishments No progress in FFY2013. In 2014, CDI will work with ISU to provide community based-watershed leadership training in the form of a webinar and promote it among the watershed coordinators and SWCD commissioners.		
3. Connect districts with community-based watershed leaders through district meeting involvement.	2014	Increased local participation and leadership in watershed projects and conservation efforts.
Progress or Accomplishments The DO-IT Project Proposal will provide SWCDs with the tools to connect with community-based watershed leaders.		

Objective 2.2: Implement a “Conservation Central” system to consistently deliver local collaborative public and private technical / financial help across Iowa. (Lead Agencies – NRCS, DSC)


Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Identify one group to take ownership	2013	Leadership established and primary host and

of website and one individual to serve as primary point of contact for the website.		funding established.
Progress or Accomplishments This action step has, in the view of the NRCS, been overtaken by other events in 2013. The cleanwateriowa.org website has been announced by Governor Branstad and is being maintained by the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship. This website (given its name) could serve the “Conservation Central” function, rather than establishing a different site and risking public confusion. Using this site and directing AS-4 (2014) and AS-5 (2015) to its development would help cooperating agencies use resources most efficiently. It would be desirable to edit the web site to show the participation  DNR, CDI, ISU and NRCS. A linked page to explain the relationship of the Iowa NPS Reduction Plan and the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy would also be helpful.		
2. Identify partnering agency points of contact to support the overall site development and provide key information to be housed on the website.	2013	Partner support established.
Progress or Accomplishments The NRCS Public Affairs Officer has agreed to provide key information to be housed on the website. Other points of contact would include the DNR Information Specialist, the ISU Water Quality Coordinator, the CDI Executive Director and the IDALS Nutrient Reduction Strategy Coordinator. Ongoing information coordination could be formalized through the Water Resources Coordinating Council. 		
3. Secure website; suggested site name – www.iowaconservationcentral.org	2013	Central website established.
Progress or Accomplishments This action step has essentially been completed (or looking at it another way, has been rendered unnecessary). See AS-1 above.		
4. Develop and populate website information and links.	2014	The following is populated on the website; Mission and vision of watershed efforts, Planning, technical, and financial assistance information, Resource maps, inventories and monitoring

		reports, Links to partner information, Links from partner sites back, Template and archived watershed plans. Partners and public are aware and utilizing the website.
Progress or Accomplishments		
No progress		
5. Market site availability to conservation partners and public.	2015	Site is maintained with current information to assist watershed planning efforts state wide.
Progress or Accomplishments		
No progress		
6. Maintain and update site via automatic updates through RSS feed and contact with partnering agency POCs.	On-going	Website is maintained, improved or replaced to match the need.
Progress or Accomplishments		
This action step should be initiated and maintained upon the completion of AS-4.		
7. Evaluate and assess the future viability of site based on use and cost efficiency.	2016	Changes are made to site based on usability and cost.
Progress or Accomplishments		
No progress		

Objective 2.3: Develop a consistent, understandable message about conservation set for delivery by multiple groups. (DNR, DSC, ISU)

Conventional marketing research indicates that only through repeated exposure to a consistent message will someone take action. This objective realizes the diversity and complexity of past efforts and aims to create a collaborative message to effectively reach a wide audience.

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Utilize the Iowa Learning Farms' tagline "Building A Culture of Conservation." Develop a list of ten principles or actions that would be associated with this campaign and based on soil and water conservation BMPs. A core group with representation from IDALS, IDNR, NRCS, CDI and ISU would decide these steps. The ten actions will include at least two urban conservation ones. 	2013	The basis for the educational component to statewide campaign to raise the environmental literacy of all Iowans, including a youth component.
Progress or Accomplishments Efforts were focused on raising the environmental literacy of all Iowans with a statewide education campaign focused on the youth. This campaign builds on the principles of "Building a Culture of Conservation" with a special emphasis on water. This program, "Water Rocks!", began with school visits in the spring of 2012 and was fully launched in the fall of 2013 with a multi-media outreach campaign. Since starting this program 117 events have been conducted reaching 11,807 individuals, primarily youth.		
2. Get environmental groups, agencies, municipalities and agricultural interests to endorse the above statement and action steps.	On-going	Agency, city and agricultural interest, agrees to endorse and adopt "Building a Culture of Conservation" with meaningful steps to it, there will be a consistent message throughout the state. Success indicators are citizens seeing themselves and their behaviors as a part of the solution and acting accordingly. Increased conservation in our rural and urban areas.
Progress or Accomplishments Iowa Learning Farms efforts in 2013 to build a "Culture of Conservation" involved agricultural groups,		

such as Iowa Farm Bureau and Practical Farmers of Iowa, environmental groups, such as the Iowa Environmental Council. A number of Iowa municipalities, such as Cedar Falls, Ankeny, and Davenport, promoted urban conservation in 2013 through education and financial assistance to residents to install rain gardens, bioswales, pervious pavement, and other urban conservation practices.

3. Build an infrastructure of support for the Executive Director of the Conservation Districts of Iowa to help build a consistency of conservation message among the SWCD commissioners in the 100 SWCD in Iowa. NRCS, through DCs, will utilize their monthly meetings with SWCD commissioners to raise their environmental literacy. IDALS will take leadership on raising environmental literacy of the SWCD secretaries.	On-going	SWCD commissioners are better engaged and informed decision makers in local watersheds. Indicator of success would be higher turnout at monthly, regional and annual meetings. Increase in SWCD visibility in the local watersheds. Increased conservation on land.
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Progress or Accomplishments

The CDI Executive Director in 2013 established a new, more professional CDI office in the offices of the Soil and Water Conservation Society in Ankeny, and met with commissioners statewide in 2013 to build support. For more information:

<http://cdiowa.org/>



4. Iowa State University, through Iowa Learning Farms and Extension and Outreach, will continue to supply all groups, especially SWCD Commissioners, educational and outreach materials based on research and data on conservation BMPs.	On-going	Strengthened local ability to respond to water quality challenges if the university specialists would create materials that were engaging and understandable to local officials, watershed groups, educators (K-12) and citizens.
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Progress or Accomplishments

Iowa Learning Farms' 2013 activities supplied outreach to SWCD commissioners through events throughout Iowa (see Iowa Learning Farms activities webpage: <http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ilf/>)


Objective 2.4: Develop a visioning process for HUC-8 watersheds in Iowa. (Lead Agency – DNR)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Determine participants and hold first meeting.	2013	Workgroup established; first meeting held.
Progress or Accomplishments The Iowa-Cedar Basin Interagency Coordinating Team (Interagency Team), which is a group of state, local, and federal agencies that have joined together to facilitate watershed-based decision making in the Iowa-Cedar Basin, established a team to develop a Visioning process for stakeholders in WMA watersheds. This work began in FY12 with a smaller-scale Visioning process in a HUC-10 watershed (Indian Creek in Linn County) and has been on-going with plans to scale up to a HUC-8 watershed.		
2. Determine how vision will be used, Determine who will use the vision (audience).	2013	Goal of visioning process established.
Progress or Accomplishments Goals of the Visioning process have been established as: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Convene a diverse group of stakeholders to develop a vision for the watershed that supports ecological, economic, and social priorities • Map a path forward for stakeholders to improve their local watershed Create a process that supports a local Watershed Management Authority or other locally-led watershed improvement organizations		
3. Research / Identify the following: existing models for Visioning; engaging the public; identifying major players at local, state, federal level who are involved in watershed planning; existing / relevant data sources.	2013	Top 5 models for Visioning are identified; Checklist of organizations involved in watershed planning is created; Checklist of data sources (example - NRCS Rapid Watershed Assessment) is created.
Progress or Accomplishments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Existing models for Visioning: The Interagency Team brought in Stacy Langsdale, a specialist with the US Army Corps of Engineers' Institute for Water Resources, to identify a visioning process. Several models were reviewed, including Vision to Action, Shared Vision Planning, and Collaborative Modeling. In the end the Interagency Team decided to use a Shared Vision Planning approach. • A Stakeholder Assessment was conducted to identify who should be involved in the visioning process 		

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Interagency Team also compiled various data sources (water quality, hydrologic, climate, demographic) <p>The Visioning Process was tested in the Indian Creek watershed</p>		
4. Develop Visioning process using information gathered in Action Step #3; Organize key issues / chapters; Write "Guide for Communities."	2014	Visioning process developed; Draft guidebook created.
Progress or Accomplishments <ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Interagency Team met to discuss the lessons learned from the Indian Creek pilot and to identify the next steps for formalizing the Visioning Process by replicating it at a broader scale in a HUC-8 watershed <p>A Stakeholder Report and a Technical Report were developed for the Indian Creek watershed that lays out the steps that were taken in the Indian Creek watershed to serve as a preliminary guidebook.</p>		
5. Conduct 3 pilots (east, central, west Iowa); evaluate effectiveness of the visioning process and guidebook; revisions as needed.	2015	Pilot Visioning is conducted; Evaluation completed; Final version of guidebook is rolled out.
Progress or Accomplishments <p>Has not been addressed</p>		
6. Develop prioritized list of HUC-8s for implementation; Conduct HUC-8 Visioning in Iowa.	2016	Prioritized list of HUC-8s is developed; Three to five HUC-8s undergo Visioning each year.
Progress or Accomplishments <p>Has not been addressed</p>		
7. Identify HUC-12s with active groups prior to kicking off Visioning in each HUC-8; Coordinate Visioning in partnership with HUC-8s.	2017	HUC12s are identified and actively engaged in HUC-8 Visioning.
Progress or Accomplishments <p>Has not been addressed</p>		

Objective 2.5: Develop and implement a statewide campaign to inform people about water quality issues, motivate involvement, and change behavior. (Lead Agencies – ISU, DNR, NRCS, DSC, CDI)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Conduct a survey which would establish a baseline of public understanding and willingness to participate prior to the campaign.	2014	Baseline of public understanding and willingness to participate in improving water quality.
Progress or Accomplishments ISU Sociologist J. Arbuckle, who conducts the Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll, worked with IDNR staff Allen Bonini and Steve Hopkins, along with representatives from IDALS, NRCS, and CDI, to initiate the design of a general public survey. The objective of the survey will be to understand public understanding of water quality issues and attitudes toward actions leading to water quality improvement. The results of the survey will inform activities in objectives 2.5.2 through 2.5.4. The survey was originally planned for 2013 but was delayed due to budget issues. The survey is now planned for 2014.		
2. Tools and training plan developed for agency professionals to provide effective outreach programming to public. Audience survey developed.	2014	Comprehensive toolbox created for staff of agencies to use that will allow for effective and consistent messaging on water quality issues and promotion of commonly used BMPs. Audience survey used to measure effectiveness of presentations.
Progress or Accomplishments See action step #1.		
3. Mass media campaign developed utilizing free media, social media and display materials for outreach opportunities.	2014	Media monitored for use materials relating to campaign. "Friends" and public response to social media elements measured.
Progress or Accomplishments Iowa Learning Farms, IDALS, IA DNR, and Iowa NRCS are utilizing various social media outlets to inform people of water quality issues to help change behavior. (See 2013 outreach examples on the above agencies' respective websites:		

http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/SocialMediaPressRoom/NewsReleases/EcoNewsWire.aspx http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/newsAndEvents.asp http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/ia/newsroom/features/		
4. Development of webpage with key messaging on water quality, nonpoint source water pollution fundamentals and promotion of the commonly used BMP's.	2014	Webpage hits counted. Survey work can also be measured. Webpage hits will also be a measurement of the success of other components such as media campaign to determine how successful efforts have been to drive traffic to this site.
Progress or Accomplishments Participated in the new CleanWaterIowa.org website  prepared material for website on BMPs. The DO-IT Project Proposal includes the development of a webpage to house and promote the toolboxes and tools.		
5. Utilize existing and initiate youth-related curriculum for schools and other youth programs (i.e. Scouts, 4-H, FFA, etc.). focusing on water quality issues reinforcing the commonly used identified BMPs).	2014	Survey of teachers and implementers of programming to determine the effectiveness of programming.
Progress or Accomplishments Iowa Learning Farm programming for youth at schools and events. In 2013, CDI and the SWCDs engaged teachers and youth in the Conservation Poster Contest, in which students learned about conservation topics and created visual illustrations of the newly found knowledge, and the Iowa Envirothon, the largest high school environmental competition in North America. CDI promoted and continues to promote, Water Rocks, to the SWCDs. Teachers and youth will be identified as a partner and target audience in the development of the identifying and working with partners and strategies for community engagement through outreach and education toolboxes.		
6. Short survey conducted to measure recognition of various components from	2015	Survey will measure public recognition of various campaign components.

the campaign.		
Progress or Accomplishments Not initiated – no progress		
7. Final survey replicating the initial survey to measure success of the campaign.	2016	Survey will provide data that can be compared to initial survey, providing quantifiable measurements of how attitudes and willingness to adapt behavior to improve water quality has changed.
Progress or Accomplishments Not initiated – no progress		

Objective 2.6: Develop and implement conservation plans to adequately preserve soil productivity and to protect water quality for targeted priority areas. (Lead Agencies – NRCS, DSC)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Make the NRCS conservation planning modules in Ag Learn available to the public.	2013	Easier access to conservation planning training to the public.
Progress or Accomplishments Behind Schedule – Technical Service Providers (TSPs) have access to the conservation planning modules in the NRCS AgLearn system.		
2. Meet with the targeted groups able to provide conservation planning assistance (e.g. “helpers”) to targeted audience. State-level completed by State Office staff; Local level completed by local staff.	2014	Demonstration to these groups that conservation planning could be a value-added service they could provide to their customers and use as a selling point to increase market share— increase profit.
Progress or Accomplishments Not Initiated		
3. Meet with the Iowa Agribusiness Association Board of Directors and sell them on the idea that having their staff at the field operations level (e.g. individual cooperatives, etc.) being trained and preparing conservation plans for their landowner	2014	Managers at all levels of the organization will support the effort to dedicate the resources needed to get staff adequately trained, allow time to complete this activity.

customers will sustain their business—sustainable farms, environmental awareness, community goodwill.		
Progress or Accomplishments Not Initiated		
4. Make use of economic models to demonstrate how conservation pays, and therefore, conservation planning is a necessary first step to implement conservation practices in an efficient and effective manner.	2014	Tools used by field staff, certified crop advisors and retail agronomists in small group settings or one-on-one assistance. This tool would be specifically helpful to land investment owners.
Progress or Accomplishments Economic models are being reviewed and evaluated by staff at the new Nutrient Reduction Center at ISU and University of Iowa.		
5. Review and consider ways to facilitate, incentivize participants who use state cost-share and other incentive-type programs to prepare a comprehensive conservation plan.	On-going	Conservation planning can help identify priorities within the planning unit.
Progress or Accomplishments Not Initiated		
6. Expand training opportunities for helpers.	On-going	Helpers and the public increase their skill and knowledge of conservation planning and through a variety of affordable training opportunities using different formats and accessible throughout Iowa.
Progress or Accomplishments Partner employees and members of the public were invited to five Soil Health training events held during FY 2013. Cooperative educational opportunities are also being planned for later in FY2014. Soil Health and Nutrient Management training was also provided to Certified Crop Advisors during an event in August. In addition, NRCS is providing conservation planning training to Technical Service Providers (TSPs) as part of the TSP certification process. NRCS also entered into a memorandum of understanding with the Iowa-based Technical Service Providers Network (TSPN). This MOU includes a provision that NRCS will provide information and support TSPs so that they understand NRCS technical		

requirements and are aware of NRCS information resources that are available to them.		

GOAL 2: EDUCATION / OUTREACH / TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE: Improve technical assistance, outreach and education to facilitate NPS assessment, planning and implementation.

Section 319 Program short- and long-term goals, objectives and strategies:

	<i>2013 Progress</i>
<u>Objective 1:</u> Prepare and distribute a watershed success stories document annually.	DNR completed and distributed 1500 hard copies of the 2012 annual success story document, "Working for Clean Water" in 2013. Electronic copies are available on the DNR watershed improvement website: http://www.iowadnr.gov/Portals/idnr/uploads/water/watershed/files/watershed_success2012.pdf
<u>Objective 2:</u> Prepare and distribute a quarterly watershed newsletter.	Ongoing –DNR completed and distributed a quarterly newsletter, "Clean Water Starts With Us", to all watershed projects and SWCD partners in 2013. Electronic copies are available on the DNR watershed improvement website: http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/WaterQuality/WatershedImprovement/WatershedNews.aspx All watershed projects are encouraged to generate and distribute quarterly newsletters to watershed users/stakeholders.
<u>Objective 3:</u> Provide GIS mapping support to all prospective watershed groups that apply for DNR Planning Grants, IDALS-DSC Development and Planning Grants, and to existing watershed projects.	Iowa DNR Watershed Improvement maintained a dedicated staff member (Andy Asell) who provided GIS mapping support to all prospective watershed groups in 2013.
<u>Objective 4:</u> Provide tools for conducting watershed inventories and assessments (such as, the RASCAL streambank assessment, tablet land use	Iowa DNR Watershed Improvement Section continued to provide all prospective watershed groups the following GIS tools & technical assistance to conduct watershed inventories and assessments: hand-held Trimble GPS units for RASCAL stream assessments, tablet computers with GIS software for

assessment, etc.) to all prospective watershed groups that apply for DNR Planning Grants, IDALS-DSC Watershed Development and Planning Grants, and for existing watershed groups.	land use assessments, and varying levels of GIS guidance & support to local groups conducting urban assessments. During FFY2013, land use and streambank assessments were completed in ten watersheds.
<u>Objective 5:</u> Conduct a statewide survey of Iowans' understanding of and attitudes about water quality and watershed improvement at year 1 and year 5 of the NPSMP.	The DNR Watershed Improvement Program worked with J. Arbuckle, ISU Sociologist, to develop a survey methodology and workplan for a statewide survey of and attitudes about water quality and watershed improvement. The year 1 (baseline) survey is to be conducted in 2014.
<u>Objective 6:</u> Encourage the incorporation of a minimum of three water quality questions per year into the Iowa Rural Life Poll.	The DNR Watershed Improvement staff Allen Bonini and Steve Hopkins worked with J. Arbuckle, ISU Sociologist, who conducts the Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll, to develop at least three water quality questions into the 2014 Iowa Rural Life Poll. The 2013 poll, conducted in February and March of 2013, included questions about climate change, soil health, and soil compaction, which were related to water quality. For a summary of the 2013 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll: http://www.soc.iastate.edu/extension/ifrlp/about.html
<u>Objective 7:</u> Develop a guidebook for communities to facilitate HUC-8 watershed visioning in Iowa within 5 years.	<i>A toolbox to help guide communities conduct watershed planning was developed by ISWEP as described in Objective 1.4.</i>
<u>Objective 8:</u> Support education and outreach to women landowners in Iowa through a minimum of 4 events per year that target women landowners in existing 319 watersheds and through statewide events.	<p>The Women, Food, and Agriculture Network (WFAN) organized and conducted many meetings throughout Iowa and the Midwest to educate and empower women landowners in making decisions on their land. For more information on WFAN, please view wfan.org</p> <p>Here is a listing of some events this past fiscal year:</p> <p>10/8/2012 Iowa Learning Farms Field Day Iowa Learning Farms, along with Women, Food and Agriculture Network, hosted a field day at Chris</p>

	<p>Henning's farm near Jefferson, Iowa. The field day focused on Henning's farm improvement including cover crops and wetlands. Henning talked about what she has done to improve and preserve her land including preserving prairies and installing buffers, wetlands and cover crops. Her approach is a "light hand on the land." In addition, Sarah Carlson with Practical Farmers of Iowa, discussed cover crop varieties, opportunities and benefits to add them into acorn-soybean rotation; ISU Extension and Outreach water quality engineer Matt Helmers presented information on the Science-based Trials of Row-crops Integrated Prairie (STRIPs) project. 20 participants.</p> <p>10/10/12 Northern Iowa Women Landowners Learning Circle Iowa Lakeside Laboratory Iowa State University graduate student Angie Carter hosted a "Northern Iowa Women Landowners Learning Circle". This project, funded by the Environmental Protection Agency Wetland Program Development Grant, aims to improve wetland restoration by connecting women agricultural landowners. 25 participants.</p> <p>10/20/12 Western Iowa Women Landowners Learning Circle, Honey Creek, IA Women that own or manage land were invited to this learning circle to share ideas and conservation discussions. 10 participants.</p> <p>10/24/12 Cedar River Basin Women Landowners Learning Circle Women who own or manage farmland in the Cedar Valley region of Iowa were invited to a free conservation discussion. The discussion focused on identifying, establishing, and protecting wetlands. 25 participants.</p> <p>10/31/12 Southern Iowa Women Landowners Learning Circle, Moravia, IA Women who own or manage farmland in southern Iowa were invited to a free conservation discussion on at the Rathbun Fish Hatchery near Moravia, IA. The discussion focused on identifying,</p>
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	<p>establishing, and protecting wetlands. 20 participants.</p> <p>11/2/12 Women Caring for the Land Meeting Women who own or manage farmland in central Iowa were invited to a free conservation discussion and field tour at Highview Harvest House near Webster City. This meeting focused on birds that live in grasslands and semi-woodlands, and other soil and water conservation topics. 12 participants.</p> <p>12/5/12 Women Transitioning the Land Meeting, Charles City, IA Women landowners were invited to meet with local beginning farmers (both men and women) who were looking for land to lease or purchase. These meetings are intended to let both groups learn from one another what kinds of issues concern them, and how to communicate with one another about transition. A farm transition expert was present to help answer questions. Morning discussion, lunch, afternoon networking, wrap up. These meetings are offered in conjunction with Practical Farmers of Iowa, with funding from a USDA Beginning Farmer and Rancher Development grant. 25 participants.</p> <p>12/14/12 Women Caring for the Land Meeting, Perry IA Women who own or manage farmland in central Iowa were invited to a free conservation discussion and field tour. This meeting focused on maintaining habitat for birds that live in grasslands and semi-woodlands, and other soil and water conservation topics. 18 participants.</p> <p>6/24/13 Women Caring for the Land: Wetland Conservation Field Day Women who own or manage farmland in western Iowa were invited to a free conservation field day. This meeting was one of five to be held in Iowa in Spring 2013, for a project called Navigating the Waters, and aimed to develop a guide for agency and non-profit staff serving women landowners on wetlands monitoring and development. 20 participants.</p>
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<p><u>Objective 9:</u> Inform and educate Iowans about water quality issues through a minimum of 3 statewide educational efforts (examples include Project AWARE, IOWATER Workshops, and the Iowa State Fair) per year.</p>	<p>FFY3013 Statewide educational efforts:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) Project AWARE, the DNR-led annual weeklong river cleanup event, took place on the East and West Fork Des Moines River near Algona to Ft. Dodge July 6-13, 2013. The event included educational presentations about water quality. A DNR article summarizing the event was sent to newspapers across Iowa. For a summary of the 2013 event: http://www.iowadnr.gov/Recreation/CanoeingKayaking/ProjectAWARE 2) The Iowa Learning Farms Project, administered by ISU Extension, conducted a series of educational field days, webinars, and conservation station events across Iowa, which informed and educated Iowans about water quality issues. For a summary of 2013 activities: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ilf/ 3) The Iowa State Fair, an annual weeklong event held in Des Moines in August, included program efforts by Iowa DNR to inform and educate Iowans about water quality issues. For a summary of 2013 DNR activities at the Iowa State Fair: 4) http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/SocialMediaPressRoom/IowaDNRattheStateFair.aspx
<p><u>Objective 10:</u> Work with each Section 319-funded project to hold at least one project field day event annually for the duration of the project.</p>	<p><u>Completed</u> – Each active Section 319 project organized at least 1 field day during FFY2013. Many of the field days focused on the recent surge in interest of cover crops.</p>
<p><u>Objective 11:</u> Develop and implement a water quality educational campaign targeted to Iowa children in grades K-12 by 2014.</p>	<p>The Water Rocks! Project, a project led by Iowa State University, in 2013 developed and began implementing a water quality educational campaign targeting Iowa children in grades K-12. The project developed an online watershed game, music videos, and video advertisements to educate youth about water quality issues in Iowa. For a summary of 2013 activities: http://www.waterrocks.org/</p>
<p><u>Objective 12:</u> Develop a water quality education campaign targeted to Iowa adults within 5 years.</p>	<p>The water quality educational campaign will be started after the baseline water quality survey is completed. The DNR Watershed Improvement Section and DNR Communications continued to educate Iowa adults in 2013 about water quality issues through EcoNewsWire, a DNR electronic press</p>

	release distributed to media outlets statewide about water quality and environmental issues. To access 2013 EcoNewsWire articles: http://www.iowadnr.gov/InsideDNR/SocialMediaPressRoom/NewsReleases/EcoNewsWire.aspx
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GOAL 3 SCIENCE-BASED PERFORMANCE MEASURES:

Objective 3.1: Encourage greater public participation in the monitoring and evaluation of water quality best management practices. (Lead Agency – DNR)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Complete migration of STORET data to EQUIS to facilitate increased accessibility and usability of DNR data.	2014	Increased availability of data/User preference surveys indicate increased user satisfaction and ease of use.
Progress or Accomplishments Migration was completed in 2013.		
2. Develop standardized protocols for data sharing (agencies, volunteers, NGOs, private entities).	2013	Increased availability of non-DNR data/increased use of non-DNR data in watershed planning and evaluation efforts.
Progress or Accomplishments Initial discussion occurred during 2013 regarding software enhancements for sharing of biological data between divisions of the DNR.		
3. Develop on-line customized reports and/or graphical output of data using easily understood language for HUC12 or smaller watersheds.	2013	Reduced effort to download and synthesize data for user/increased user satisfaction and reduced labor needed to produce reports or graphs.
Progress or Accomplishments In 2013, watershed monitoring reports were generated for data collected for 319-funded watershed projects. These reports will be discussed at the watershed project annual review meetings in 2014.		
4. Develop an IOWATER training module that trains volunteers/citizens/others on how to develop water quality monitoring plans and quality assurance project plans.	2014	Increased capability to develop water monitoring plans and QAPPs/increased number of watershed plans derived locally.
Progress or Accomplishments No progress		
5. Develop IOWATER or other training module on	2014	Increased capability of use in basic

the use of hand-held monitoring equipment including quality assurance procedures for use of the equipment (calibration, etc.)		monitoring equipment/improved data quality from hand-held meters.
Progress or Accomplishments No progress		
6. Develop training on the interpretation and analysis of monitoring data for citizens/volunteers/others.	2014	Improved data evaluation and assessment/increase in the number of volunteers/citizens/others with the capability of effectively analyzing monitoring data.
Progress or Accomplishments No Progress		

Objective 3.2: Develop local natural resource goals with targeted solutions to meet watershed needs. (Lead Agency – DSC, DNR)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Generate basic state-wide watershed data at the HUC 12 scale.	2014	Compile all information into a database which can be provided directly to watershed groups and/or made available through a web-based system.
Progress or Accomplishments Basic state-wide information at the HUC 12 scale is available to the public through the web-based “Watershed Atlas” hosted on the Iowa Department of Natural Resources website: http://programs.iowadnr.gov/ims/website/water_monitoring/viewer.htm . Information available includes but is not limited to: HUC 12 watershed boundaries state-wide; soil types and associated characteristics such erodibility and soil loss expressed in tons/acres/year; location of streams and other water bodies along with showing the location of any impaired waters.		
2. Utilize existing tools for the purpose of providing HUC 12 watershed scale information which is easily understood and readily available to local agencies and groups.	2014 / up-date	Baseline HUC12 data available for local groups and individuals to assist in the prioritization process.
Progress or Accomplishments Groups or individuals may directly access basic HUC 12 information by utilizing the web-based Watershed Atlas described in Step #1. In addition, groups and individuals may request additional assistance in gathering information by contacting the local Natural Resources Conservation Service/Soil and Water Conservation District field office or by contacting the Iowa Department of Natural Resources or the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship directly. All these organizations work cooperatively to provide requested data and support through the use of GIS mapping tools and through local “in the field” support provided by the field office staff or the Regional Basin Coordinators. The Regional Basin Coordinators provide individual watershed assessment assistance to local groups interested in more detailed information about currently watershed conditions.		
3. Provide local groups with necessary assessment tools to assist in the information gathering process.	On-going	All groups utilizing the available tools for assessment purposes.
Progress or Accomplishments. Local groups may request assistance with watershed assessment activities by contacting the local		


<p>Natural Resources Conservation Service/Soil and Water Conservation District field office or by contacting the Iowa Department of Natural Resources or the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship directly. Once contact has been made, the Regional Basin Coordinators provide guidance to the group during the assessment process. Assessment tools made available to the group include the use of a Table Computer and a RASCAL Unit for the purpose of field-level data collection and compilation. The field data collected is used through GIS to produce watershed scale maps which highlight the priority areas within the watershed based on resources concerns and the current field-level assessment data collected. The assessment data may also be used to provide more farm and/or field specific information through the use of the Pollutant Reduction Calculator. The Calculator uses the data to provide information on soil loss per acre as well as sediment delivery, phosphorus delivery, and nitrogen delivery from a field location to the water body that is of concern. It also can provide data relative to gallons of storm water in more urban settings. The Calculator establishes base-line values for an area and then can be used to show reductions in pollutants from this area based on different bmps that can be installed to address the concern. This allows the local group to decide the best options available based on the bmp installed vs pollutant reduction associated with the practice. Currently, all local groups that request assistance in watershed assessment activities are provided with guidance provided by the Regional Basin Coordinators and the tools described above.</p>		
4. Work with all interested local groups to develop a matrix of local resource concerns which can be utilized in the process of identifying priority watersheds.	2016	In 5 years, at least 50 – 60% of the groups using this format for prioritizing watersheds.
Progress or Accomplishments No progress to report at this time.		
5. Follow-up with any local partners that may not have participated in the prioritization process to allow for their input.	2017	Receive responses from at least 50% of the groups contacted.
Progress or Accomplishments No progress to report at this time.		
6. Identify desired end results and utilize this information to set watershed goals and determine practices needed to achieve desired results.	2017	At least 50% of the Watershed Groups establishing agreed upon watershed goals and appropriate practices and then prioritizing local available funding

		toward achieving the goals.
Progress or Accomplishments No progress to report at this time.		
7. Utilize the local Soil and Water Conservation District to lead the process of recruiting members and organizing the Watershed Group.	2017	Establishment of a local Watershed Groups across the State that represents all concerned groups and individuals in each watershed.

Progress or Accomplishments


No progress to report at this time.

Objective 3.3: Utilize long-term research projects, including monitoring, funding, and alternative management practices to confirm post-project results of demonstration projects.(Lead Agency – ISU)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Inventory long-term studies in Iowa.	On-going	Long-term projects will be funded, supported, continued, and reported (1-5 action steps).
2. Contact project leaders and identify needs (Funding, support, etc.).		
3. Seek funds, support as needed.		
4. Request periodic reports.		
5. Publish results. 		
Progress or Accomplishments The long-term studies in Iowa have been inventoried. The list includes eleven project leaders, 440.2 acres, 36 distinct sites, 27 different projects and 3,376 plots. The oldest sites/studies date to 1915 and 1954. The studies are in 12 different Iowa counties.		


Objective 3.4: Place greater focus on up-scaling small-plot research to watershed scale.(Lead Agency – ISU)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Use plot research to calibrate and/or parameterize watershed shed level models that address management impacts on water quality.	2016	Published papers in peer reviewed journals and proceedings of Iowa based conferences.
Progress or Accomplishments		

<p>Funded research project under Iowa Nutrient Research Center to scale-up plot work to watershed scale. Initiate in 2014.</p> <p>In the past 12 months more than 30 presentations have been delivered to agribusiness professionals and farmers on practices that can be used to reduce nutrient movement to downstream water bodies – this has reached greater than 2500 stakeholders.</p> <p>Plot level research is being shared with watershed models to improve predictive capacity. This includes supplying field research data on the impacts of land management practices on nitrate-N losses in subsurface drainage</p>		
2. Engage producers to increase adoption of practices showing promise for improving water quality.	2017	Presentation of outcomes to stakeholders and development of extension materials for promoting favored practices.
Progress or Accomplishments  Will work with farmers in priority watersheds to implement BMPs and measure water impact.		

Objective 3.5: Establish uniform practices and protocols for monitoring that can be applied to watershed needs. (Lead Agency – DNR)


Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Compile current practices and protocols for monitoring in Iowa and identify limitations or barriers to their use.	2014	Decision making chart for monitoring that includes modules specific to pollutants and helps identify the appropriate monitoring to meet watershed objectives. More watershed groups are able to adopt and implement the decision making tool.
Progress or Accomplishments No progress at this time.		
2. Identify emerging technologies that can be used.	2014	Emerging technologies identified.
Progress or Accomplishments No progress at this time.		

3. Develop precipitation and flow monitoring protocols for implementation in the watershed.	2014	Precipitation and flow monitoring protocols are developed.
Progress or Accomplishments No report at this time.		
4. Develop protocols for gathering, managing, and documenting landowner inputs for a watershed. Establish protocols to ensure privacy for the information collected. Identify current methods in Iowa for tracking inputs to a watershed and limitations or barriers to those methods. Identify methods that other states use for tracking watershed inputs and evaluate their applicability for watersheds in Iowa.	2015	Guidance for gathering input information for watersheds. More of this information is being gathered for watersheds.
Progress or Accomplishments The Community Assessment Project, a DNR project contracted through ISU, developed protocols for gathering, managing, and documenting landowner and community support for watershed project efforts. The Community Assessment toolbox was completed for use by local watershed groups and is available at: http://www.extension.iastate.edu/ilf/content/watershed-based-community-assessments		
5. Establish post project monitoring schemes to evaluate long-term success of improved water quality in a watershed.	2016	Develop recommended post-project monitoring guidance. Post-project monitoring is conducted at a majority of the watersheds.
Progress or Accomplishments Post project monitoring needs will be evaluated at the end of watershed projects with DNR Watershed Monitoring and Assessment staff. 		
6. Survey cooperators/producers pre- and post-watershed project to determine if they internalize water quality into their decision making process. Survey to determine if their awareness and attitudes are changing and if behaviors are being	On-going	Survey documents changes in awareness, attitude, and behavior changes relative to water quality. An increase in the number of people who internalize water quality in their

adopted within the watershed.		decision making process.
Progress or Accomplishments Iowa Learning Farms conducted producer evaluations at each of the field days, webinars, and other events it hosted in 2013. Evaluations are available from the Iowa Learning Farms. For the Water Quality Initiatives for Small Feedlot Project, ISU developed a pre- and post- survey of producers who attended the small beef feedlot and small dairy open lot field day in late 2013. The survey will be conducted during the winter of 2013-14. No survey data is available from other watershed project surveys in 2013.		


Objective 3.6: Adopt system-based implementation and monitoring strategies versus practice-based approaches. (Lead Agencies (DSC, DNR)



Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Encourage conservation agencies to prioritize watersheds and resource concerns, similar to an MRBI approach.	2014	Identified priority watersheds and resource concerns.
Progress or Accomplishments DNR and IDALS DSC worked with the NRCS State Technical Committee to recommend that three Section 319 watersheds be selected as the 2013 NWQI watersheds. The State Technical Committee recommended and NRCS adopted the recommendation. Through the 2013 NWQI, over \$1.2 million in additional EQIP funding was allocated to landowners in the three watersheds.		
2. Develop and implement ranking criteria to prioritize resources to projects which target practice placement within a system-based strategy for water quality improvement. Projects which adopt the “avoid, treat, and trap” approach will be given higher priority.	2014	Ranking criteria is developed and used to score watershed improvement grants.
Progress or Accomplishments NRCS and the State Technical Committee establish ranking criteria for EQIP and other NRCS financial assistance program to target practice placement for water quality improvement. Section 319-funded watershed projects establish criteria to target practice placement in priority areas identified in their watershed management plans.		
3. Increase number of trained consultants to work with producers to implement conservation systems. Staff should develop relationships with producers and follow-up to evaluate actual outcomes and adapt accordingly.	On-going	Additional field staff that provide technical assistance to producers to improve water quality conditions.
Progress or Accomplishments NRCS worked in 2013 with consultants and service providers to work with producers to implement Iowa’s new nutrient management (590) practice standard. For more information: http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detail/ia/water/?cid=nrcs142p2_008195 The ISU Manure Management Action Group provided training in 2013 to consultants and producers on		


manure application education and certification: http://www.agronext.iastate.edu/immag/		
4. Work with Iowa State, NRCS, SWCD, IDALS, private agronomists, and neighboring states to implement a consistent, comprehensive, and organized set of management recommendations to cover a broad set of agricultural systems, including but not limited to nutrients.	2015	Utilize a consistent, comprehensive, and organized set of management recommendations to cover a broad set of agricultural systems.
Progress or Accomplishments The Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy (NRS), released in 2013 by IDALS, DNR, and ISU, included a set of management practices and recommendations for reducing nutrient loading to Iowa waters. The above agencies provided outreach to agronomists and producers in 2013 on the NRS. For more information: http://www.nutrientstrategy.iastate.edu/		
5. Develop and implement monitoring strategies at various scales within watershed project areas. For example, field level, tributary and main stream or lake. Monitoring should include flow monitoring to determine pollutant load transport. Monitoring should also be set in such a way to capture event and base flow conditions. 	On-going	Multi-scale monitoring plans that capture sufficient information to evaluate water quality conditions and trends.
Progress or Accomplishments For Section 319 watershed projects, water monitoring strategies were revised in 2013 with the assistance of the DNR Watershed Monitoring and Assessment Section to monitor pollutants directly related to the impairment of the waterbody (lake or stream) to be improved and, where appropriate, to incorporate flow monitoring and/or subwatershed monitoring. Monitoring results from 2013 will be shared with watershed projects at their annual meetings in early 2014.		

GOAL 3: SCIENCE-BASED PERFORMANCE MEASURES: A major component of water quality professionals remains the need for science-based performance measures, which lays the foundation for understanding water quality problems and how to effectively remediate them.

Section 319 Program short- and long-term goals, objectives and strategies:


	<i>2013 Progress</i>
<u>Objective 1:</u> Evaluate and track progress annually on the implementation of each EPA-approved Watershed Management Plan.	<p>Progress in implementing watershed management plans was tracked through annual watershed project review meetings in 2013 and through annual pollutant load reduction calculations reported by watershed project coordinators.</p> 
<u>Objective 2:</u> Transition to developing Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) using a rotating basin approach, within 3 years.	A straw man document for implementing a rotating basin strategy for the TMDL program has been drafted. This concept document has been through initial vetting with the Watershed Monitoring and Assessment Section, resulting in suggestions for further refinement. The TMDL Program is currently working with the WMA Section to further develop and refine the strategy with a goal of being able to implement the monitoring phase of the strategy beginning in WY2015, with subsequent TMDL development to begin in WY2016 or WY2017.
<u>Objective 3:</u> Develop 4 lake TMDLs per year, or develop 20 lake TMDLs within 5 years.	<p>In FFY 2013, two lakes were submitted and approved by EPA (Casey Lake and Hannen Lake). Several lake TMDLs were initiated in FFY 2013 and will likely be submitted to EPA in FFY 2014 including Little River Lake, Volga Lake, Upper Pine Lake, Otter Creek Lake, Central Park Lake, and Beaver Lake. The list of pending and approved TMDLS is maintained on the DNR Watershed Improvement website: http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/WaterQuality/WatershedImprovement/WatershedResearchData/WaterImprovementPlans/PublicMeetingsPlans.aspx</p>
<u>Objective 4:</u> Complete TMDLs for all 2002 listed impaired waters (category 5a) by 2016.	<p>For 2002-listed impaired waters that are still on Iowa's 303(d) list, TMDLs have been completed for all impaired waters except for five lakes, and two streams / rivers as follows: Backbone Lake, Bacteria; Bob White Lake, Bacteria; Windmill Lake, Algae; Lake Manawa, Turbidity; Browns Lake, Turbidity; Iowa River, Bacteria; Chariton River, Low DO</p> <p>*Note: 3 impairments for Arsenic (2 on the Mississippi and 1 on the Missouri) are not considered priorities for the State of Iowa and will not have TMDLs completed.</p> <p>For more information: http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/WaterQuality/WaterMonitoring/ImpairedWaters.aspx</p>

<p>Objective 5: Remove 5 water quality impairments within 5 years for waters currently listed as impaired on the state Integrated Report.</p>	<p>According to EPA’s decision document for the 2012 Section 303(d) list, 79 impairments were de-listed for the 2012 Integrated Report cycle. Of those, there were 27 impairments removed from the list due to TMDL preparation & approval, 9 were removed due to restitution sought/received for fish kills, and 43 impairments were removed due to new data showing no impairment.</p>  <p>For more information, see the DNR impaired waters webpage: http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/WaterQuality/WaterMonitoring/ImpairedWaters.aspx</p>
<p>Objective 6: Establish and conduct monitoring annually to track changes in water quality resulting from watershed improvement in Section 319-funded watersheds.</p>	<p>In 2013, monitoring plans were updated and monitoring was conducted in all 319-funded watersheds to track changes in water quality. Monitoring plans for each 319 project were evaluated by a team including staff from DNR Watershed Monitoring and DNR Watershed Improvement. The updated monitoring plans were established to monitor pollutants directly related to the impairment of the waterbody (lake or stream) to be improved and, where appropriate, to incorporate flow monitoring and/or subwatershed monitoring. Monitoring results from 2013 will be shared with watershed projects at their annual meetings in early 2014.</p>
<p>Objective 7: Provide analysis and interpretation of watershed-based water quality data annually to active Section 319-funded watershed groups to inform them and improve their understanding of progress towards reaching WMP goals.</p>	<p>In 2013, analysis and interpretation of water monitoring data was provided by DNR Watershed Monitoring staff or SHL to DNR Watershed Improvement staff and/or watershed project coordinators. Project water monitoring results were discussed at watershed project annual review meetings in 2013 and at other project events.</p>
<p>Objective 8: Provide analysis and interpretation of statewide water quality data annually to guide state and local groups.</p>	<p>In 2013, DNR maintained various water monitoring data on its webpage, including: STORET, the DNR fishkill database, the 305b water quality assessment database, an updated biological assessment database, the water quality index, and specific water monitoring program data. http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/WaterQuality/WaterMonitoring/Data.aspx</p>  <p>DNR also provided interpretation on Iowa’s impaired waters, as follows: Iowa DNR submitted its final 2012 Integrated Report, including Iowa's 2012 list of impaired waters, to U.S. EPA for approval on March 25, 2013. Iowa DNR received final approval of this submittal from U.S. EPA on April 24, 2013.</p>

	<p>Public comments were sought on Iowa's draft 2012 list from January 15, 2013 through February 28, 2013. Comments were submitted to IDNR by one government agency (U.S. EPA) and one environmental group. Iowa DNR prepared a summary of responses to these comments. Changes were made to the draft list based on the comments received. Iowa's final 2012 Section 303(d) list, as submitted to U.S. EPA on March 25, 2013, for review and approval, contained 480 waterbodies with a total of 642 impairments. This version of the list was approved by U.S. EPA on April 24, 2013. For more information on Iowa's 2012 Integrated Report:</p> <p>http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/WaterQuality/WaterMonitoring/ImpairedWaters.aspx</p>
<p><u>Objective 9:</u> Report on modeled annual pollutant load reductions for sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen, in Section 319 priority watersheds.</p>	<p>In 2013, modeled annual pollutant load reductions for sediment, phosphorus, and nitrogen were reported for all active 319 watershed projects to EPA, and through project review meetings and reports. These are available on the GRTS database:</p> <p>http://iaspub.epa.gov/pls/grts/f?p=110:3000:15534017059537:::</p>
<p><u>Objective 10:</u> Develop or adopt a tool to estimate annual pollutant load reductions from urban conservation practices within Section 319 priority watersheds by 2013.</p>	<p>DNR Watershed Improvement GIS staff worked with IDALS Urban Conservation Program staff in 2013 to develop a tool to estimate annual pollutant load reductions within Section 319 watershed project areas. The urban pollutant tool will be added to the new DNR web-based pollutant reduction calculator, which was completed in late 2013.</p>
<p><u>Objective 11:</u> Digitally map all conservation practices installed in Section 319 priority watersheds by 2013.</p>	<p>In 2013, most conservation practices installed in Section 319 priority watersheds were digitally mapped on the EPA GRTS database for each watershed project. DNR will digitally map all conservation practices on the GRTS database in 2014. </p>

GOAL 4 FUNDING:

Objective 4.1: Prioritize existing public programs that support science-based measures identified in Objective 3.2. (Lead Agencies – ISU, DNR, NRCS,DSC, CDI)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
<p>1. Determine priorities based on stakeholder needs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Survey stakeholders to identify current needs and priorities. b. Survey stakeholders to identify currently available funding sources. Determine if available funding is being used. c. Develop a plan that identifies areas for additional funding, and provides an opportunity for stakeholders to promote and support funding efforts. 	2014	A Strategic Funding Plan that identifies and targets additional funding sources, and provides support that stakeholders can use to engage in securing needed funding.
<p>Progress or Accomplishments</p> <p>Including questions in Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll related to conservation and water quality and practice adoption. Continue to work with watershed groups regarding practices and costs of adoption. </p>		
<p>2. Evaluation of existing public programs:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Assess existing public programs to see if the correct programs and needs are being met, and the priorities are being addressed. b. Identify service and / or performance gaps. c. Identify potential overlapping services between public entities (to avoid duplication of services). 	2014	Summary document that identifies current needs and priorities, and identifies available and needed funding to meet the needs and priorities.


Progress or Accomplishments

Existing public programs were reviewed as part of the NPSMP update and development of the Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy. The Water Quality Initiative was developed in 2013 the Iowa Legislature to provide additional nonpoint source funding for nutrient reduction practices, to fill a gap in financial assistance for nutrient reduction practices





Objective 4.2: Improve interaction among private sector groups to invest in NPS issues and solutions. (Lead Agencies – DSC, DNR)

Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Comp. Date	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
1. Identify relevant NGO's in Iowa that deal with NPS issues and have each NGO identify how their work impacts NPS issues.	2013	Establish a defined network, designate a lead coordinator, formal communication (i.e. list serve) &/or regular meetings established (1-6 action steps).
2. Coordinate &/or support existing outreach efforts.		
3. Inventory available private sector funding and existing barriers that may exist for funding.		
4. Encourage the WRCC/WPAC to expand current membership to host more stakeholder groups.		
5. Target tailored messages based on identified local resource needs in coordination with WRCC & WPAC.	2015	
6. Develop easy to understand financial assessment tools and information to help translate benefits of conservation and clean water to profitability in the operation (return on investment, reduction of inputs, etc.).		
Progress or Accomplishments Several NGOs that deal with NPS issues have been identified, including Practical Farmers of Iowa, the Iowa Soybean Association, the Nature Conservancy, among many others. DNR has worked with the Iowa Soybean Association (ISA), the Nature Conservancy and other partners to conduct water monitoring, watershed planning, and to implement BMPs in the Boone River watershed to address nutrient loading in that watershed. NRCS, IDALS, ISU, CDI and DNR worked together with various NGOs in a major effort to educate farmers about cover crops and soil health in 2013. DNR worked with Ducks Unlimited and other NGOs in 2013 to restore wetlands, and with Trout Unlimited and other NGOs to restore coldwater troutstream segments in Iowa.. DNR has discussed in 2013 Iowa's NPSMP with various NGOs, including the Iowa Environmental Council (IEC), NGO members of the WRCC and WPAC, and, NGO members of the NRCS State Technical Committee. IDALS, DNR, NRCS, ISU, and CDI have worked with various NGOs in 2013, including the ISA, IEC, and members of the WRCC and WPAC to discuss implementation of Iowa's Nutrient Reduction Strategy. Private sector funding was used for various nonpoint source projects in 2013, but a comprehensive list of private sector funding has not yet been compiled.		

7. Identify non-traditional partner groups (i.e. banks, corporations, public health, landowners).	2016	At least 3 non-traditional partner groups identified; Designate a lead coordinator; At least 3 messages / information pieces (i.e. fact sheets) developed for 3 different non-traditional partner groups (7-10 action steps).
8. Identify what those entities currently invest in, what they would invest in, and/or what information is needed to make investment decisions.		
9. Develop tailored information / messaging on the specific incentives to invest in NPS issues.		
10. Engage the Iowa Economic Development Authority to support corporate investment.		
Progress or Accomplishments The DNR Watershed Improvement Program began collaborating with the Iowa Department of Transportation (DOT) in 2013 to target stream mitigation efforts required to be completed by DOT to existing 319-funded watershed project areas. The goal of this effort is to combine existing watershed improvement efforts with future streambank and streambed improvement efforts to improve measurable water quality improvement. 		

Objective 4.3: Create new or revise existing sources to allow for local groups to be more flexible in implementing and testing innovative approaches. (Lead Agencies – ISU, NRCS)


Action Steps / Implementation Strategies	Desired Outcomes / Success Indicators
<p>1. Regarding NRCS Interim Conservation Standard process:</p> <p>a. Inform researchers and State Technical Committee member organizations about the process to establish and utilize Interim Conservation Practice Standards.</p> <p>b. Encourage greater participation in the formal review and revision of existing NRCS Conservation Practice Standards to assure that the latest innovations are timely considered and implemented, upon approval.</p>	<p>A greater number of innovative approaches to address NPS water quality will be recognized by NRCS as Interim Conservation Practices Standards; a high percentage of the approaches evaluated are effective at protecting water quality and become eligible for NRCS cost share programs; additional conservation tools provide landowners more options, increase adoption of conservation practices, and water quality improves.</p>
<p>Progress or Accomplishments</p> <p>Arbuckle: In response to a request from IDNR staff Allen Bonini and Steve Hopkins, the 2013 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll contained questions designed to inform water quality improvement efforts. Question sets focused on farmer nutrient management behavior (practices and timing), primary sources for information on nonpoint source pollution-related farm management decisions, and perceptions regarding the importance of soil and water quality as issues in the state. Some of these data were published in the 2013 Iowa Farm and Rural Life Poll Summary, and a report on nitrogen management practices is forthcoming </p>	
<p>2. Regarding farmers, resource managers & researchers:</p> <p>a. Encourage researchers to attend farmer meetings where water quality is discussed so they develop relationships with progressive farmers and managers; showcase Farmer-led Watershed Projects to better inform farmers, extension and researchers of innovative strategies for addressing water quality; publicize Iowa Learning Farms activities, publications and website.</p> <p>b. Develop process for gathering input from farmers about innovative soil conservation and water quality</p>	<p>Researchers become more familiar with progressive farmers and the innovations that they have developed to protect water quality; researchers evaluate and monitor innovations based on farmer ideas and publish the results on effectiveness and costs; the additional conservation tools provide landowners more options and adoption of conservation practices increase and</p>

practices and sharing the results with researchers; educate farmers, CCAs, industry and agency personnel on new research on innovative strategies and practices. c. Establish cross-links between NRCS, IDALS DSC, DNR, ISU and CDI websites that describe innovative water quality strategies and practices.	water quality improves.
Progress or Accomplishments Iowa Learning Farms, Practical Farmers of Iowa, ISU's Leopold Center ISU Extension, ISA, and other groups encouraged researchers to attend farmer meetings where water quality is discussed, to develop relationships with farmers and managers 	
3. Regarding Low Impact Development (LID): a. Develop new and utilize existing LID brochures, websites, and other outreach about funding programs to be distributed to the targeted audiences. b. Have agencies and LID practitioners attend trade association trade show of targeted audiences; expand LID educational programming at conferences for targeted audiences. c. Communicate LID research needs to the appropriate research community.	Urban planners, developers, civil engineers, and landscapers are more aware of BMPs regarding urban water quality; urban planners, developers, civil engineers, and landscapers are more aware of funding for LID practices to protect water quality; communities adopt a higher percentage of LID BMPs to protect water quality.
Progress or Accomplishments The IDALS Urban Conservation Program and Iowa Stormwater Education Program and utilized existing and developed new outreach materials in 2013 to promote LID in Iowa. For more information: http://www.iowastormwater.org/ http://www.iowaagriculture.gov/FieldServices/urbanConservation.asp LID educational programming was incorporated as a primary track in the 2013 Iowa Water Conference, and will also be a primary track in the 2014 Iowa Water Conference: http://www.water.iastate.edu/event/iowa-water-conference-2014 LID research needs were communicated by the IDALS Urban Conservation Program in 2013 to DNR and ISU researchers to identify the need to develop more accurate percentages of compost used in	

bioretention cells, bioswales, and rain gardens to reduce phosphorus transport from the LID practices. New recommendations will be developed in 2014.

GOAL 4: FUNDING: The support of public resources, such as the waters of the state, require resources, both public and private, to achieve positive results.

Section 319 Program short- and long-term goals, objectives and strategies:

	<i>2013 Progress</i>
<u>Objective 1:</u> Target at least 50% of Section 319 funds annually to support priority locally-led impaired watershed projects within the 6 major river basins and 3 major river regions in Iowa, by 2013.	In 2013, more than 50% of Section 319 funds were targeted and awarded to support priority locally led impaired watershed projects. 
<u>Objective 2:</u> Annually promote the use of 604(b) funding for regional watershed planning.	In 2013, 604b funding was used along with Section 319 funds to provide funding to regional watershed planning efforts through the development of WMAs.
<u>Objective 3:</u> Annually promote the use of clean water SRF funds statewide and within Section 319 priority watersheds as a means to increase private investments to address nonpoint source pollutants.	In 2013, the existing SRF Nonpoint Source loan program was promoted statewide and within 319 priority watersheds to increase private investments to reduce nonpoint source pollutants. For more information: http://www.iowasrf.com/program/other_water_quality_programs/ Also, new SRF program, the Water Resources Sponsored Projects Program, was created in 2013 to provide funding to reduce nonpoint source pollution within watersheds for communities with existing wastewater loans. The use of the new program was promoted by DNR and IDALS SRF staff and Basin Coordinators. New

	<p>grants were recommended for approval in September of 2013.</p> <p>http://www.iowasrf.com/about_srf/news-37090/?sponsored_project_recommendations_approved&show=news&newsID=17519</p>
<p>Objective 4: Annually promote the use of USDA funding programs such as, EQIP, CREP, MRBI, etc., within Section 319 priority watersheds as a means to increase private investments to address nonpoint source pollutants.</p>	<p>In 2013, USDA funding programs were promoted within 319 priority watersheds to increase private investments to reduce nonpoint source pollutants. In addition, three Section 319 priority watersheds—Black Hawk Lake, Badger Creek Lake, and the Lower South Fork Chariton subwatershed of the Rathbun Lake watershed-- were selected to receive additional EQIP funding through the second year of the National Water Quality Initiative (NWQI). For more information about NWQI:</p> <p>http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/Internet/FSE_DOCUMENTS/nrcs142p2_005952.pdf</p>
<p>Objective 5: Annually document and report on the amount of dollars leveraged by Section 319 funds, including public and private investments, in Section 319 priority watersheds.</p>	<p>In 2013, the amount of funding leveraged by Section 319 funds, including public and private investments in priority watersheds, were reported to EPA through the GRTS database and through the Section 319 annual program report.</p> 